

West Park Civic Association

Community Newsletter



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GET INVOLVED



The West Park Civic Association meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Church of the Mediator at 1620 W. Turner St.
Email us at westpark.ca@verizon.net.

At our Dec. 3 meeting, our last before the holidays, we invite attendees to bring food and drink to share in the spirit of the season. All are welcome.

WPCA BOARD

President: Thomas J. Yuracka
1st Vice President: Mar Haeussler
2nd Vice President: Ibi Balog
Secretary: Merrily Starkey
Treasurer: Peter Jodik
HARB Representative: Ellen Roberts

Board Members at Large:
Nancy Jensen (Membership Chair)
Christine Oaklander (Art-in-the-Park)
Scott Armstrong
Matt Kramer
Cheryl Haughney
Ellen Roberts

Holidays in West Park

•DECEMBER•

4

6-8 P.M.

Christmas Caroling

Meet us at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 44 N West Street to begin a night of caroling throughout the West Park neighborhood, visiting primarily homes with elderly and shut-in residents. Let us know of any requests for stops.

Afterward, bring cookies to share at a gathering of good people, food and hot chocolate.



Free to all!



•DECEMBER•

7

6-8 P.M.

Annual Tree Lighting in the Park

6-7 p.m.: Edible ornament-making for our furry friends at the Church of the Mediator, 1620 W. Turner St.

7-8 p.m.: Meet at the band shell in the park for music, tree lighting, hot beverages and cookies.

Thank you to
our sponsor:

JAINDL
ENTERPRISES

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving

- All trash, recycling and yard waste collections cancelled on Thursday night, **Nov. 28**
- Next trash collection will be Monday night, **Dec. 2** (max 10 bags)
- Thursday recyclers: Next recycle/yard waste collection will be Thursday, **Dec. 5**
- **Recycling office closed Nov. 28-29**



Christmas and New Years

- Trash cancelled on Tuesday night, **Dec. 24** and Tuesday night, **Dec. 31**
- Tuesday recyclers: Put out recycling Wednesday, **Dec. 25** and Wednesday, **Jan. 1**.

Elsewhere in Allentown...

Lights in the Parkway

Nov. 29-Dec. 28 daily
5:30-10 p.m.

Lehigh Parkway: 1601 Park Dr.,
Allentown, PA 18103

J.S. Burkholder family 2nd Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

Friday, Nov. 29

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Holiday music, tree lighting, short
service and light refreshments

Downtown Allentown Tree Lighting Ceremony

Thursday, Dec. 5

8 p.m.

800 block of Hamilton Street

The Holidays at Hess's

Saturday, Dec. 21

1-2 p.m.

An educational program by the
Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum;
free for members, \$8 for adults
and \$3 for children

APD welcomes new chief: West Park resident Glenn Granitz

A little Q&A to get to know Chief Granitz

Q: How long have you lived in Allentown and in which neighborhoods?

A: My family lived on North Penn Street (alley between 4th and 5th) near Washington Street when I was born. About middle school we moved to the West End and lived on 16th Street. I have also lived in Lower Macungie, 19th/Livingston and of course now in West Park (which we love)!

Q: Why did you want to become a police officer?

A: As many people now know, I am a second generation APD Officer. My father graduated from the Police Academy on the day I was born. Growing up, my father was a K9 Officer, and Fritz, his German Shepherd, stole my crayons and probably set me on the path to be a police officer. My father ended up being a detective and then Captain of Investigations, so it was no surprise when I spent a large part of my career working homicide and other investigations as well.

Q: What's your favorite Lehigh Valley festival?

A: My family and I love attending a variety of festivals in Allentown and surrounding areas. We are partial to anything with music and craft beer. My wife and I are volunteers for Blues, Brews and BBQ and enjoy attending this event along with the newer Beerfest. We have also grown partial to ArtsFest and Art in the Park at West Park.

Q: Are you addicted to any TV shows right now?

A: People are going to think less of me, but honestly my guilty pleasure right now is watching the series "Below Deck" on Bravo. We are huge fans. I tend to stay away from cop shows but I find "Bosch" on Amazon to be fairly relatable to how cases actually unfold.

Q: What's your favorite movie?

A: At my house, it's a lot of kids' movies. As a family we have recently watched *The Greatest Showman* about a hundred times. However, if it's just up to me, it's romantic comedies, and my favorite may or may not be *Pitch Perfect*!

Q: What do you listen to in the car (when you're not working)?

A: I generally have an Andrew McMahon, Imagine Dragons, Tom Petty, Guster or an 80s station on my Pandora unless the kids are in the car. I also have an ear for anything acoustic, particularly cover songs. I also listen to my fair share of podcasts (Kayla Dwyer's) and sports talk radio.

Q: If you could visit anywhere in the world you haven't, where would you go?

A: I guess I'd say THE VAULT on Hamilton Street. (Just kidding, but it's a great spot and we're not members!)

On a serious note, any white sand beach we haven't traveled to yet.

Q: What's a pet peeve you have?

A: My biggest pet peeve is anyone who doesn't work hard. On a funny note, I do not enjoy having my toenails painted by our four year-old daughter, Mae, but it's hard to say no.



Q: What's your favorite family tradition?

A: Currently, it's heading to Phillies Spring Training with my family every March. The kids enjoy seeing the games and hanging out with their grandparents while escaping the cold for a week or two.

Q: Do you have any secret or little-known talents?

A: I am secretly a phenomenal Candy Crush player. People come from far and wide to have me beat their hardest levels for them. Also, I'm an Eagle Scout, which not too many people know about me.

Q: What's your biggest priority for Allentown for your first year?

A: Priority number one is a sustained reduction in violent crime. Initially you will see a focus on increased communications to our community groups and residents via the media and our social media feeds. We will also be increasing our interaction with our residents through new programming such as the Senior Citizen's Academy and the Trunk or Treat on Oct. 30th.

"I tend to stay away from cop shows but I find "Bosch" on Amazon to be fairly relatable to how cases actually unfold."

Want to mentor an ASD student?

The difference mentoring makes is as much as a 40% increase in high school graduation rates, according to data from a mentorship program called "Take Stock in Children."

Inspired by this Florida-based program, Saul Coplan, our guest at November's WPCA meeting, started a mentorship program at William Allen High School last year. Now, he's looking for help.

Coplan meets with Allen students once a week for half an hour to discuss scholarship and career opportunities. He is looking for volunteers with some life experience to help him touch the lives of more.

If you're interested in becoming a mentor, reach out to Coplan at 941-350-9843 or saulcoplan@aol.com.

"You mentor one student, you will change that student's life."

SAUL COPLAN

NEW RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP

Through a new partnership with Retrievr, Allentown residents now have the option to recycle clothing and electronics at your doorstep.

Text "pickup" to 757-70-FETCH (33824)

(Fees for TVs and CRT monitors)

retrievr 



It's dues time. See below application.



West Park Civic Association of Allentown

2018 Membership Application

The West Park Civic Association (WPCA) exists to preserve, protect, enhance and promote West Park and it's surrounding neighborhood area. WPCA advocates prevention of park and neighborhood blight and deterioration, enforcement of laws and ordinances within the area and park as well as neighborhood safety and beautification. WPCA encourages harmonious human relations among the residents of the West Park Neighborhood.

Consider joining WPCA, as we can be a stronger organization with your help.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

As a member, and in order to further the above stated goals, I would be interested in helping with the following:

Art in the Park____ Board of Directors____ Code Enforcement____ Clean N'Green____
Crime Watch____ Egg Hunt, Children's Programs____ Historic District/Historic Preservation Week____
House Tour____ Hospitality/Welcome____ Membership____ Newsletter____ Zoning____

Dues are payable during the calendar year, January - December, \$10.00 per household

Forward to: Nancy Jensen, 1642 Turner Street, Allentown, PA 18102 or online: www.westpark-ca.org